



## **February 2006**

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### **Preserved: 115 Acres in Paradise**

Regional priority area will provide recreation opportunities

Paradise Township, PA (January 2006) - Acquisition of 115+ acres, on two wooded parcels will have a significant impact in Paradise Township by conserving priority lands identified in multiple regional conservation and recreation plans. Assistance from a recently approved \$140,000 NPS Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant will help Paradise Township address priorities for greenways, stream preservation and access, education, recreation, and natural resource protection.

The property will remain mostly in a natural state and be open to the public for a variety of recreational pursuits. Fishermen will have a new destination with access now provided to the high-quality, cold-water fishery of Cranberry Creek. Preservation and protection of this property will be enjoyed by over 9,000 residents from surrounding municipalities, the county's 43,000 residents, and numerous visitors to the area. For more information, please contact Mary Vavra, LWCF Project Manager at [mary\\_vavra@nps.gov](mailto:mary_vavra@nps.gov) or 215-597-9175.

### **Northwest Discovery Water Trail Makes a Blue Debut**

Dedication events celebrated along the entire trail route

WA/OR/ID (August 2005-October 2006) – A year-long celebration launched the Northwest Discovery Water Trail, a 367-mile river route that runs from the Clearwater River in Idaho and down the Snake and Columbia Rivers. The trail connects more than 150 access sites in three states for paddle craft and motor boats, providing connections to riverside communities, wildlife refuges, and waterfront parks. The NPS Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program is providing assistance to the Steering Committee on public outreach and development of a trail management plan. Trail partners include local governments, non-profit organizations, chambers of commerce, and residents along the trail corridor; as well as WA, OR, and ID State Parks and Recreation Departments; Washington Water Trails Association; the US Army Corps of Engineers; US Coast Guard; US Forest Service; Bureau of Land Management; and US Fish & Wildlife Service. A 2005 NPS Challenge Cost Share Program grant funded development of the trail's website and new signage along the trail. For more information, please contact Sue Abbott, RTCA Program, Seattle, at [sue\\_abbott@nps.gov](mailto:sue_abbott@nps.gov) or 206-220-4116. Or check out the Northwest Discovery Water Trail at [www.ndwt.org](http://www.ndwt.org).



## **Cacapon and Lost Rivers Land Trust Realizing Its Vision**

212 acres conserved through easements

Hardy and Hampshire Counties, WV (January 17, 2006) - Guided by the strategic conservation plan it developed in 2002, the Cacapon and Lost Rivers Land Trust recently signed conservation easements on two properties totaling 212 acres of forest and agricultural lands in Hardy and Hampshire Counties. These easements meet the far-reaching vision of the Trust to identify and protect the conservation values of high-priority farm and forested lands within the watershed and to establish large, contiguous networks of natural lands connecting public as well as privately protected lands.

As co-signer of these easements, the Potomac Conservancy advances its goal of protecting land in the Potomac River's headwaters. The National Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) program helped the Trust and its many partners develop and implement the strategic conservation plan, one of the first systematic and comprehensive plans prepared by a land trust in the nation. For more information, please contact Wink Hastings, NPS Chesapeake Bay Program office at [whastings@chesapeakebay.net](mailto:whastings@chesapeakebay.net) or 410-267-5787, or Chris Niewold, NPS RTCA, at [Christopher\\_niewold@nps.gov](mailto:Christopher_niewold@nps.gov) or 202-619-7195.



## **Surplus National Guard Facility Becomes Nature Park**

Close-in Houston Neighborhood obtains critical greenbelt trailhead site



Houston, TX (November 14, 2005) – The National Park Service Federal Lands to Parks (FLP) program transferred at no cost 14.3 acres to the City of Houston for its newest natural resource based community park. Formerly acquired for use by the Texas National Guard, the property is valued at over \$229,000. In conjunction with the Harris County Flood Control District, the Houston Parks and Recreation Department will develop the property as a trailhead for walking trails along the Halls Bayou Greenbelt. Planned improvements include wetlands enhancement, walking and nature trails, picnic areas and a playground with benches. The transfer was negotiated by NPS FLP staff. For more information, please contact: Bill Huie, NPS FLP Program Manager, at [Bill\\_Huie@nps.gov](mailto:Bill_Huie@nps.gov) or 404-562-3175.

## **Village with a View**

Scenic Pier along Lake Champlain provides access and gathering place

Rouses Point, NY (January 2006) - The Village of Rouses Point received a recent NPS Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant of \$250,000 to construct a scenic pier at the site of the former State Dock barge terminal. The new pier will be the culmination of a multi-year Village effort to enhance the Lake Champlain shoreline and improve public access to the lake. The Village acquired the site from New York State in 2001 with the vision of providing a gathering space and a location for small events. The pier will provide residents and visitors access to the scenic Lake Champlain shoreline for strolling, sightseeing and fishing. For more information, please contact Jean Sokolowski, LWCF Project Manager at [Jean\\_SokolowskiA@nps.gov](mailto:Jean_SokolowskiA@nps.gov).

Conservation Successes informs Department of Interior staff, conservation partners, and friends about the program successes of the National Center for Recreation and Conservation. For more details, please contact the staff person involved with each project. This e-mail newsletter may be copied or redirected; our staff would be pleased to assist your editor in adapting any of these stories for your publication. To subscribe or unsubscribe, please call (202) 354-6900 or e-mail [sally\\_grate@nps.gov](mailto:sally_grate@nps.gov). All photos courtesy NPS.